

HOLLYWOOD'S SENSATIONAL COWBOY STAR!

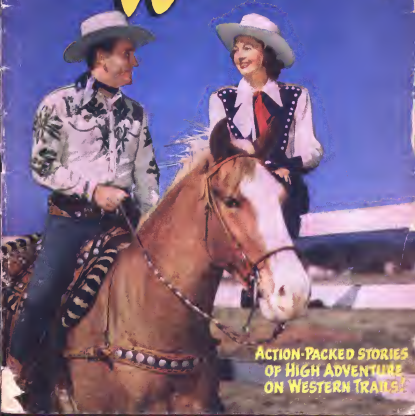


JIMMY WAKELY

52 BIG
PAGES

Jimmy Wakely

NO.
PT. OCT



ACTION-PACKED STORIES
OF HIGH ADVENTURE
ON WESTERN TRAILS!

NEW AS Tomorrow!

**52 BIG PAGES IN A
NEWER-THAN-NEW
COMICS MAGAZINE
JAM-PACKED WITH
AMAZING ADVENTURES
IN THE FAR REACHES
OF OUTER SPACE
...CHILLING VISITS
TO STRANGE PLANETS
...HARROWING JOURNEYS
INTO DARK INFINITUDES!**

*You'll THRILL TO
THE CHALLENGE OF
THE UNKNOWN IN
**STRANGE
ADVENTURES***



**DON'T
MISS IT!**

**ANOTHER SMASH
MAGAZINE WITH
THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL
ON THE COVER!**



**...WHICH IS YOUR
GUARANTEE OF THE
BEST IN ANY COMICS
MAGAZINE!**

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JIMMY WAKELY

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BIG SMASH WESTERN ADVENTURES

Starring

★ JIMMY WAKELY ★

* SECRET OF HAIRPIN CANYON *

* DESERT JUSTICE *

* PRIZE OF PERIL *

Plus--these action-packed thrillers

* STRANGER FROM SUNBURST BEND *

* BOTALYE--IMMORTAL INDIAN WARRIOR *

* SUZIE 'N' SLIM--TEXAS TIM--WESTERN FACTS *



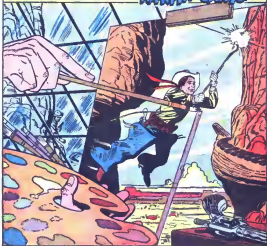
JIMMY WAKELY

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE LOST-TOO MOUNTAIN ANCHORAGE THAT BRINGS AN OVERSIZED MOUNTAIN OF TROUBLE FOR THE CITIZENS OF A TOWN NAMED TOWN ANCHORAGE?

IT ALL BEGAN WHEN THAT FORGOTTEN LITTLE TOWN SURRENDERED TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD—AND BEFORE THINGS QUIETED DOWN AGAIN, AT LEAST ONE NEIGHBORING PLACE HAD SOME OUTSIDE TYPE WORLD!

HARD-BOILED JIMMY WAKELY GOT INTO THE ACT BY ACCEPTING AN INVITATION TO A DUELING WEEK END—BUT HE SPENT MOST OF IT DOODLEING BULLETS AND BANGS WHILE TRYING TO SOLVE—

**"The SECRET of
HARPIN CANYON"**



THE GREAT JUBILEE WEEK END AT THE TOWN OF TWIN MOUNTAIN IS ABOUT TO BEGIN-- AND AS TOWN JEWEL, HOLLYWOOD'S CORRECT CHAIRMAN, ERIC WHO TOWN EXPECTS AS A BRIGHT SPOT OF GOOD FUN AND FISHING...



As the cowboy star starts to question the townmen, their distressed victim mounts his horse and gallops away...





"WHEN BROCKTON SET HIMSELF AGAINST OUR PLAN, THE TOWN PEOPLE BECAME RUED UP BECAUSE THEY FELT HE HAD NO RIGHT TO AN OPINION AT ALL!"



"JIMMY, BROCKTON, YOU'VE BEEN LIVING IN THESE PARTS LESS THAN A YEAR-- AND WHAT'S MORE, YOU LIVE MILES OUTTA TOWN IN SLEEPIN' CANYON!"

"EXACTLY--AND THAT INTERNAL RAILROAD RINGS THROUGH SLEEPIN' CANYON-- YOU FORTY BARDS FROM MY STUDIO!"



"WE LET BROCKTON HAVE HIS SAY, LISTENING TO HIM AS HE WORKED ONE REASON AFTER ANOTHER..."

"THAT'S OUR TROUBLE! IT'S BEEN TOO QUIET AROUND HERE FOR THE PAST TWENTY YEARS! NOW WE ARE TO ATTRACT PEOPLE!"

"FRIENDS, DO YOU WANT Hordes OF TOURISTS SWARMING OUR COUNTRYSIDE, NEVER ALLOWING US A MOMENT'S QUIET?"



"FRIENDS, STARTED ON THE RAILROAD, WITH BROCKTON OBJECTING EVERY INCH OF THE WAY THEN, LAST WEEK, WHEN ROCK TRAINS PASSED THROUGH SLEEPIN' CANYON, GETTING READY FOR TOURISTING, BROCKTON CHANGED HIS MIND!"



"LISTEN, MYSTER, WE'RE JUST A WORK CREW AND WE GOT OUR ORDERS! YOU CAN HAVE ALL YOU WANT TO BUT YOU WON'T STOP OUR TRAINS FROM COMING THROUGH!"

"YOU'LL SEE! IF I CAN'T ARGUE PUBLIC OPINION, I MYSELF WILL KEEP THE RAILROAD FROM OPERATING!"



"WELL, JIMMY, TODAY YOU SAY WHAT AN AROUSED PUBLIC OPINION FINALLY DO ABOUT BROCKTON!"

"I ADMIT, MAKE MAKE A MISTAKE! OUTSIDE WE COULD RICH THINGS UP, BUT FIRST, I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THAT DEVIL YOU MENTIONED..."

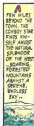
"I'M AFRAID HE STILL MAY DO SOMETHING DESPERATE..."



"RECORDED JIMMY WAKELY THE WORK PROUDLY DISPLAYS THE NEW GLORY OF THE PICTURESQUE, HARBOR-CRUISE RAILROAD, ON WHICH THE TOWN HAS SPENT ITS SAVINGS TO ATTRACT WEALTHY AND FAMILIAR BUSINESS..."

"MAHON, THAT HAND-CAR IS JUST RIGHT FOR TRYING A RUN TO BROCKTON!"

"BUT BROCKTON AND THE RAILROAD ARE ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF SLEEPIN' CANYON--AND THE FORTY BARDS BETWEEN THEM IS A LOT --STRAIGHT ACROSS THE CANYON! YOU'LL HAVE TO GO THE LONG WAY, AND THAT'S A TOUGH MOUNTAIN TRAIL..."





SCRAMBLING UP TO THE SECOND FLOOR, THE COWBOY CALLED CRIES SPARE TIRE... AND, REVENGING NO ANSWER, OPENS THE UNLOCKED STUDIO DOOR AND ENTERS...



HELLO! ANYBODY HOME?

FUNNY... THIS IS AN ARTIST'S STUDIO, AND THERE'S NOT A SIGN OF A BREATHING—NOT EVEN A PAINT SMELL OF PAINT!



SUDDENLY, A WELL-CONCEALED TRAP DOOR BEHIND JIMMY OPENS AND...

BEACH, WAKELY! YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME HERE! IF YOU THINK YOU CAN TALK ME OUT OF STOPPING THE RAILROAD FROM RUNNING!



BUT THE AGILE COWBOY MOVES SWIFTLY...

I WOULDN'T LIKE TO GIVE UP WITHOUT AT LEAST TRYING!

OWWWW!



THE NEXT MOMENT...

FREEZE, MASTER—OR YOU'RE A DEAD DUCK!

IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU BOOTS SHOWED UP! NOW GET ME TO GUN! AND RETURN TO YOUR POSTS! I'LL TAKE CARE OF OUR UNWANTED GUEST!



AFTER THE ARTIST'S HENCHMEN LEAVE TO STAND WATCH ON BOYS APPROACHES TO THE STRANGER STUDIO...

YOU MADE A BAD MISTAKE COMING HERE, WAKELY...

HOW ABOUT THE BAD MISTAKE YOU'RE MAKING RIGHT NOW, PROCTOR...



—BY HOLDING THE GUN OVER MY HEAD!



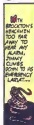
THEN, SWIFTLY REVERSING THE KEY FROM INSIDE THE STUDIO DOOR TO JAM THE LOCK ON THE OUTSIDE...

YOU CAN'T GET, ANY, WAKELY! YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOOT YOUR WAY PAST MY MEN!

IN MOVING WE CAN'T CALL THE SARTER IN THE ACT—AND IF THIS LOCK HOLDS FOR A FEW MINUTES, MAYBE I CAN SHOW YOU ANOTHER LITTLE SARTER!



JIMMY WAKELY



WITH BROCKTON'S REACTION TOO FAR AWAY TO REED ANY ALARM, JIMMY COMES DOWN TO AN EMERGENCY LANDING...



IT'S LUCKY I PARKED THAT HAND-CAR DOWN THE TRACK A PIECE-- THEY'LL NEVER FIGURE OUT HOW I GOT HERE OR HOW I'M GETTING AWAY!

QUICKLY RETURNING TO TOWN, THE CONDUCTOR ACTS UPON THE MARCH OF AN UNEXPECTEDLY CHARGE ENCOUNTER WITH BROCKTON...

STRANGER, NO ONE IN TOWN KNOWS ANYTHING ABOUT THE TWO ARMED MEN WITH BROCKTON AND WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THE CUP OF RED GLASS YOU FOUND?

WELL-- ALSO-- ALUMINUM OXIDE, OR CORUNDUM...



WHAT HAS THIS GOT TO DO WITH BROCKTON'S FIGHT AGAINST THE RAILROAD?

I'M NOT SURE YET, BUT I THINK I CAN FIND OUT WITH YOUR HELP NOW IF YOU'LL CALL A SPECIAL SENATORIAL TOMORROW MORNING-- BEFORE THE ACTUAL ANNUAL RUN...



FORENOON, THE NEXT DAY, AS THE DETERMINED CITIZENS OF TOWN MOUNTAIN RESPOND TO THE MARCH'S CALL...

REMEMBER, MEN, THIS IS A JOB FOR HOLLER-- THERE HOURS ALL BEEN MADE OBLIVIOUS-- SO IF THERE'S SHOOTING, SHOOT STRAIGHT!

WE WILL MARCH!



BRISTLING WITH WEAPONS, THE TRAIN STARTS ITS TRIAL RUN...



AS THE TRAIN NEARS HAZARD CANYON...

STOP THE TRAIN! THERE'S A TREXLE ON THE CRANE SIDE OF THE TUNNEL THAT MUST BE EXACTLY RIGHT FOR A SABOTAGE JOB! WE'LL TRY A LITTLE TRICK HERE AND CHECK!



I'LL WALK THROUGH THE TUNNEL. IF THE TREESTLE LOOKS OKAY, YOU MEN RELAY MY SIGNAL TO THE ENGINE. THEN START GOING—AND MAKE IT SOUND AS IF YOU'RE ROLLING FULL SPEED!

OKAY, JIMMY!

SOON AFTER, AS JIMMY REACHES THE OTHER END OF THE TUNNEL...

IF EVERYTHING STAYS AS PEACEFUL AS THIS LOOKS, I'LL BE SATISFIED—AND SURPRISED! (JIMMY) IT'S TIME TO GET THAT TRAIN ON ITS WAY!



OUT OF THE TUNNEL, THE BOAR AND MASTER OF THE ONCOMING TRAIN RODES THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS... THEN, AT THE VERY LAST MOMENT, THE TRAIN COMES TO A SUDDEN, GRINDING STOP!



WHOA, BOY! THAT'S PERFECT! JUST AS HE PLANNED IT!

A SPLIT-SECOND LATER...



THEN JIMMY WAKELY SPRINGS INTO ACTION!



THERE GO BROCKTON AND HIS TWO MEN! LET 'EM HAVE IT!

DON'T SHOOT! JIMMY WAKELY'S GOING TO SEND THEM OFF!

MINUTES AFTERWARD, AS JIMMY REACHES A REMOTE SECTION OF BARKIN CANYON...



THIS IS LIKE SAVING A PRIVATE ENTRANCE! I'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO LOOK AROUND BROCKTON'S STUDIO BEFORE HE AND HIS BUDS COME BACK HERE—

BUT WHEN THE WESTERN AGE REACHES THE LOFTY UPPER...

HELLO, THERE! YOU MUST BE ONE OF BROOKTON'S MEN. I'M DONALDSON—THE MESSIAH HE'S EXPECTING FROM THE FUTURE. SUPRA, HISTORICAL MUSEUM, WHY BENT BROOKTON HERE?

BROOKTONS—BE—MAKING A LITTLE RAILROAD TROUBLE MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU!



UNFORTUNATELY, DONALDSON SHOWS JIMMY INTO THE STUFF, WHERE...

LOOK AT THESE—SOME OF THE MOST VALUABLE DEVELPS IN EXISTENCE! ONLY BROOKTON'S MACHINERY CAN PRODUCE THE SWIFT-THINKING DYNAMOS, RUBIES AND EMERALDS WE NEED TO REPLACE THESE WITHOUT FEAR OF DETECTION!—AND HE'S FODDERING WITH A RAILROAD!



GENERALLY FOLLOWING JIMMY

DRINKS OUT DONALDSON, AND SO ENDED IS THE COMEDY STAFF IN THE GARDENING STORY, THAT HE WENT THE SLIP BY UNKNOWINGLY.



...AND WHEN BROOKTON FINALLY WROTE ME THAT HIS PRESSURE EXPERIMENTS WERE SUCCESSFUL...

HIDE UNDER THE REST, DONALDSON! IT LOOKS LIKE THE FAST-MOVING RAZZLE DON'T MOVE QUITE FAST ENOUGH TO STOP!



SEARCHING JIMMY, BROOKTON COMES ACROSS THE MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE WITH ITS CHIP OF RED GLASS...

THIS ENVELOPE HAVELY FOUND MUST HAVE TIPPED HIM OFF TO WHAT WE ARE DOING HERE!

AND LIKE A FOOL, I TOLD HIM THE WHOLE STORY!



QUICKENING!

LOOK!—IT'S THAT TEAM AGAIN! THEY BACKED CLEAR AROUND THE SCENE RAILWAY! THEY'LL BARE US FROM ACROSS THE CANYON!

NOT AS LONG AS WE'VE GOT HAZARD FOR A MOMENT! EVERYBODY DOWN INTO THE LABORATORY!



ROUND HAND AND FOOT, JIMMY IS TOSSED INTO AN UNDERGROUND LABORATORY.

AFTER A WHOLE YEAR OF PREPARATIONS, OUR PLANS ARE ABOUT TO BE NEEDED AT THE LAST MOMENT!—

DON'T WORRY, I'LL BE FINISHED BY MORNING! THEN AFTER DEPOSING OF HAZARD, WE'LL DEMOLISH THE MACHINES AND SILENTLY CLEAR OUT—DOWN THE VALLEY TRAIL YOU USED CLIMBING UP...





MEANWHILE, FINDING THE POSITION OFFERED BY AN EDDY CARVER, JIMMY HASTILY TAKES A DESTITUTE CHANCE!...

WITH TWO MISPLACED SWITCHES AND A LITTLE LUCK, MAYBE I CAN DEMANTLE THESE MACHINES... WITHOUT "DISPOSING OF HANDED!"



AS THE SWITCH IS TURNED, THE MOUNTAINOUS "ITSELF" BEGINS TO EXPLODE!



AND WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS FROM KARPIS' CANYON...

THERE'S, JIMMY, NOTHING! ALIVE!

THEY'RE ALL ALIVE! KEEP THE REST OF 'EM COVERED, MEN-- UNTIL WE THROW A TEMPORARY BRIDGE ACROSS TO GET 'EM OFF!



LATER, BACK IN TOWN, JIMMY TELLS THE STORY BEHIND BROOKTON'S CRASHING AGAINST THE RAILROAD.

BROOKTON DIDN'T WANT TO BEK BEING SPOTTED AT HIS WORK, HE HAD A SECRET PROCESS FOR SYNTHETIC CONCRETE--THE COMPOUND FOR MOST JEWELS. THE RED GLASS I FOUND HERE AS STUPID WAS A POOR EXPERIMENTAL RUN, BUT HIS LATELY SPEECHES WERE MORE ENOUGH TO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE PROCEURE GENE OF THE FLEETED BUREAU MURDER.



BROOKTON HAD A DEAL WITH THE COLLECTOR OF THE MUSEUM DEMONSTRATION. THE CURATORS MISUNDERSTOOD, REQUEST THE MUSEUM'S JEWELS FOR BROOKTON TO COPY AND REPLACE WITH AN FLAWLESS SYNTHETICS-- AFTER WHICH THE REAL GEMS COULD BE CUT UP AND SOLD.

BUT THANKS TO A YOUNG JIMMY WENT GOT THE DROCKS AND THE JEWELS ARE SAFE!



AND THEN MOUNTAIN'S JUBILANT DAY TURNS OUT DUBIOUS AFTER ALL...

WE AREN'T OPENING ON SCHEDULE, BUT WILL REBUILD THE THEATER, AND WITH ALL THIS PUBLICITY-- WE CAN'T MISS!

WURRAY FOR JIMMY WAKELY!



JIMMY WAKELY

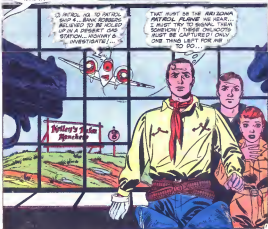
DESERT JUSTICE!

HIGHWAY 6 IN SOUTH ARIZONA IS THE LONeliest ROAD IN A LONELY STATE -- BUT WHEN JIMMY WAKELY, HOLLYWOOD'S COMBOY CHARIOT, FOUND HIMSELF SHARING THAT ROAD WITH ANOTHER PARTY...--HE KNEW THERE WASN'T ROOM FOR BOTH OF THEM! THE TROUBLE WAS, THE OTHER PARTY AGREED WITH JIMMY-- ONLY THEY HAD ONE SOLUTION FOR THIS STRANGE CASE OF OVER-CROWDING, AND JIMMY HAD ANOTHER... WHEN HE TANGLED WITH MEN WHO NEEDED TO BE TAUGHT

BARK YOU THREE...
REMEMBER, WE
HAVE THE UPPER
HAND...

CONTROL NO. 10 PATROL
SHIP 4... BARK ROBBERS
BELIEVED TO BE HOLED
UP IN A DESERT GAS
STATION... HIGHWAY 6
-- INVESTIGATE! ...

THAT MUST BE THE ARIZONA
PATROL PLANE WE HEAR...
I MUST TRY TO SIGNAL THEM
SOMEHOW! THESE CHILDRN
MUST BE CAPTURED! ONLY
ONE THING LEFT FOR ME
TO DO...



DRIVING THROUGH SOME OF THE LOVELIEST COUNTRY IN THE WEST, JIMMY WARELY AND HIS SURPRISLY TRAINED MOUNT SORRY, ARE ON THEIR WAY TO COMPETE IN THE SOUTH ARIZONA HORSE FAIR...

RUNNING LOW ON GAS, JIMMY STOPS AT A FILLING STATION...

"NIGHTY NICE LOOKING GAS STATION... SURE LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE ARRANGED AND TUNED DOWN THAT GASOLINE TO SPELL OUT THE NAME... WONDER WHAT'S KEEPING THE STATION ATTENDANT F..."



A MOMENT LATER, A GIRL COMES RUNNING TO THE CAR...

"WHY--I RECOGNIZE YOU! YOU'RE THE HORSE STAR--JIMMY WARELY! IF ONLY YOU COULD HELP--OH, I JUST T--"

"FIMMY... SHE SAID 'FIMMY' AND THEN STOPPED!---WONDER WHAT'S BEHIND IT?"



WHAT JIMMY REMEMBERED... BUT HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING--HAD WAITED AN HOUR EARLIER--WITH AN OVER-HEATED JUNT--COOKED CAR HAD STOPPED FOR GAS--

LOOKS LIKE WARELY HADN'T COMED BY HERE--HOW SPICY TWO STAND IT?

"SHE AND I DON'T AND I I CAN'T OUT HERE FOR MY HEALTH--IN A NET--GOT THE WHOLE PLACE BUILT FULL OF THE SCUMMER--"



SUDDENLY, THE TRAVELERS WAITED OUT SUNS AND...

"WHAT'S THIS--A STICK-UP?"

"DO WHAT YOU'RE TOLD AND YOU'LL STAY HEALTHY! NOBODY WANTS YOUR MONEY--NONE, GET OUT OF THE GARAGE--WE'RE TAKING OVER HERE FOR ANHLE!"

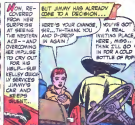


IN THE NEXT HOUR, THE IDENTITIES OF THE FEW STRANGERS HAD BECOME ALL TOO CLEAR!...

"BELLSTHIN! DANGER! STRICK, FLAMES HAVE JOINED THE INTENSIVE JAWHUNT FOR THE POLICE PLEASING BANG BOMBING! THEIR BLACK BROWN WAS BELIEVED REAR THE BORDER..."

"THANKS FOR THE TIP-OFF! WE'LL STAY PUT HERE TILL DARK, THEN RUN FOR THE BORDER!"





BUT THE CRACK WESTERN BUCKYMAN MAKES A LIGHTNING DRAW!



AFTER FLYING THREE STICKS, JIMMY WENT READY FOR A FOURTH...



DISORDER ATTENT! RAVING PAILED, JIMMY AND THE SERVICE STATION OWNERS ARE KEPT DOWN-STARS TO THE CELLAR...

SO THE SHOOTER IS JIMMY WAKELY! I'VE HEARD OF HIM! A FIGHTIN' TERROR AGAINST THE LOCAL HILLBILLY BANDITS!

LOCK THE SIDING CELLAR DOOR ON 'EM! THE WINDOW DOWN THERE'S GOT BARS ON IT.



THEN, SHORTLY AFTERWARD...



MEANWHILE, WATCHING INTENTLY FROM THE CELLAR, JIMMY REALIZED TIME IS RUNNING SHORT!...

SONNY'S BOWING LOW... AND THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!-- BUT IT'LL TAKE FOLDING, AND THIS I GOT TO STALL THEM. BOWDOWN-- KICK UP A LITTLE TROUBLE!



COOLY DETERMINED, THE HOLLYWOOD STAR TACKS INVENTORY OF HIS MEN'S RESOURCES...

I'VE KEPT THREE TWO-MORTAR SHIELDS HIDDEN DOWN HERE BECAUSE THEY'RE STILL ALIVE. MAYBE WE CAN USE THEM!

BE SURE, OK! AND I HAVE AN IDEA. MY SHARK-GUTS STRIKE I TWO ACROSS THAT BEP WILL COME IN HANDY BEFORE LONG!





TAKING EVERYTHING IN, NIMBLE-WITTED JIMMY FASHIONS A PLAN OF ACTION...

THE DUMB-WAITER GOES UP TO THE DINING ROOM COUNTER. NEXT, OUR PRIVATE TALKING SYSTEM... THIS SWITCHES OFF THE RADIO UPSTAIRS, SO WE CAN USE THE SAME SPEAKERS FOR OUR SYSTEM...



MINUTES LATER, AS THE CONVOY ACE WORKS FEVERISHLY...

JIMMY-- THIS IS MY LANDSCAPED BASE-- BRUSH SIGN YOU'VE NOTICED HERE! BUT WHY?

HAVEN'T GOT TIME TO EXPLAIN NOW, CLEM-- JUST GET READY TO HANDLE YOUR PART OF THE JOB--



FLASH-STRANGE-LY-- AS THE NEARBY GEAR REACHES AT THE WINDOW, WHISTLING TO HIS WONDER HORSE!



UPSTAIRS-- AS CLEM'S VOICE COMES THROUGH THE BRIEFLY DISCONNECTED RADIO-- THE RESPONSE IS ELECTRIC!...

WE INTERRUPT FOR A BULLETIN! MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED THAT HIGHWAY 5, NOW UNDER HEAVY GUARD, IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



OUTSIDE, WITH DUNK SETTLEING, SONNY QUICKLY AND INTELLIGENTLY CARRIES OUT HIS PART IN THE PLAN!...

I THINK MY RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT HAS WORKED, JIMMY!-- BUT WHY ARE YOU BRASHING YOUR HORSE TO SHUT MY GUY?

NO TIME TO TALK NOW, CLEM! SEE IF YOU CAN OPEN THE TWO HORSE SHEDS AND GET THE PIONEER OUT-- WITH-OUT BLOWING US UP!



MEANWHILE, THE WORK UNDISCOVERED, THE RADIO PLAYS ON...

LIGHT A FIRE, SOMEONE!-- IT GETS PRETTY COLD OUT HERE ON THE DESERT AT NIGHT!... FOR PETE'S SAKE-- WHAT'S THAT WHISTLING I KEEP HEARIN'?

I TOLD YOU-- IT'S THAT CON-BOY! IF HE DOESN'T CUT IT, I'LL GO DOWN AND BLAST HIM!



DOWN IN THE CELLAR, JIMMY'S PLAN IS ALMOST SET...



CLEAR, DID YOU SEE E SONNY TOOK THE SUGAR DISPENSER IN HIS TEETH! BUT IT WAS UPSIDE DOWN--IT'LL SPILL!

FOOTSTEPS COMING! THEY MUST'VE HEARD THE WHISTLING UP- STAIRS! LET'S HOPE THE GUNMEN STRONG MORNING!



TRUE TO HIS THREAT, THE GUN- MAN STARTS DOWN THE STAIRS-- BUT DOESN'T GET FAR BEFORE...



THEN--UPSTAIRS-- CLEM'S VOICE COMES OVER THE RADIO AGAIN!...



FROM THE DUNNETER--AS SOON AS SHIRLEY'S RENOVEN RUSH OUT!...



IGNORING JIMMY'S WARNING, THE DESPERATE GANG LEADER--GRABS AND...





JIMMY WAKELY



BUT THE QUICK-THINKING FILM STAR SEIZES THE KNIFE FROM A BACK, BEHIND HIM AND...

HE CAN'T GET AT ME--AND I CAN'T GET AT HIM. IT'S A STOOD-OFF--UNLESS...



I GOT NOTHING AGAINST THESE KIDS--OR EVEN YOU, WAKELY! WITH ME, KILLIN' AIN'T PERSONAL--IT'S POWER--THE POWER TO DO WHAT I LIKE... AND RIGHT NOW NOBODY CAN STOP ME!



THE RETURN OF THE GARDEN PUTS JIMMY AT AN OVERWHELMING DISADVANTAGE...

BAILEY, I FOUND AKEE DOWN THE CELLAR! THE SAP TRIPPED DOWN THE STEPS...



BUT SUDDENLY, WITH A STRANGLED GRY, YOUNG GLEN KELLEY CHARGES--HIS ONLY WEAPON A MARBLE-TOPPED TABLE!

GLEN-- DON'T! THEY'LL KILL YOU!

THAT FLAG--AND WHAT HE SAID-- IT REMINDS ME OF WHAT I FIGHTED FOR--AND AGAINST!



AND WHEN THE OTHERS ARE BROUGHT UP FROM THE CELLAR...

IF YOU CUTTHROATS TOUCH THESE KIDS-- I'VE DOWN WAKELY! I'M BURNIN' THIS SHED!



THE NEXT MOMENT--THE GORRONS ARE DOWN INTO ACTION AT GLEN'S SIDE...

THE PARTY'S GETTIN' TOO ROUGH! I'M BEATIN' IT OUTTA HERE!

HE TOO! OUR CAR'S IN THE GARAGE! COME ON!



IT'S THE GIRL, DECIDING THE FLAMING TORCH, IT FALLS ON A TRAIL OF GUN POWDER MADE BY SONNY--A TRAIL THAT REACHED LIKE A FLARE, FROM THE CELLAR WINDOW BELOW--TO THE BASEBALL GYM...



AND THE SIGN--USING EXACTLY THE SAME LETTERS BUT TOTALLY RE-ARRANGED BY JIMMY'S WHISTLED DIRECTIONS TO SONNY--GOES UP IN A BLAZE SEEN FOR MILES...



URGENT! RANGER PATROL 4 TO HEADQUARTERS...

GET THAT MESSAGE IN FAST! WE'RE GOING DOWN!

THE RANGER PLANE PLUMMETS DOWN--NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON!...

THAT'S THE BANG, SONNIES! BLACK SMOKE WE'RE KUNTING!

HUNTING IS THE RIGHT WORD! ALL RIGHT, PARTNER! THAT BURN! GOT THEM!



MEANWHILE, JIMMY AND CLARA ARE PUTTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON THE OTHER HALF OF THE GANG...

JIMMY, THERE CERTAINLY ARE TURNED OVER! THE RANGER PLANE'S COMING IN TO LAND!



SOON AFTER... THE RANGER PATROL WAS APPEARED ON THE SCENE...

WE'VE RECOVERED THE STOLEN MONEY, JIMMY! THERE'S A REWARD COMING TO YOU--AS WELL AS OUR THANKS!

CAPTAIN, THESE TWO COURAGEOUS YOUNGERS ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE EARNED YOUR THANKS--AND THAT BOMB FOR THE REWARD, TOO!



AND WHEN THE SERENITY OF THE DESERT IS RESTORED ONCE MORE...

SEE, JIMMY, IT DOESN'T SEEM FAIR! WHAT DO YOU GET OUT OF ALL THIS?

WELL, I FOUND TWO NEW FRIENDS IN YOU--ADVENTURE--EXCITEMENT--I FEEL FINE--AND I'M HEAD-ED FOR A PAIR! WHAT MORE COULD I WANT? ADIOS!



JIMMY WAKELY

I'M TAKIN' THAT SCROLL AWAY FROM YOU, WAKELY! I'M A BETTER SHOT AND HARDER THAN YOU... AND I'M SURE GONNA FRONT IT... BY USIN' YOU AS A TARGET!

This scroll awarded to JIMMY WAKELY for his trick riding and fancy shooting, judged to be the finest in BALLON COUNTY.

*Signed
Thorne Kent
The Law
Largest
Thorne*

EVERYONE IN BALLON COUNTY KNEW THAT JIMMY WAKELY WAS THE NEATEST—SHOOTING, HARDEST-RIDING, BRANDED BUSTER FOR JAILS AROUND. EVERYONE, THAT IS, EXCEPT THE MYSTERIOUS SHADY WHO SET OUT TO PROVE... IN BULLETS... THAT HE WAS THE BETTER MAN! WHAT STARTED AS A CONTEST ENDED AS A DEADLY GAME OF HURDER, WHEN JIMMY DISCOVERED THAT THE TROPHY HE HAD WON WAS REALLY A...

"PRIZE OF PERIL!"

AT THE STARS RANCH...

LAWYER CONWAY GOIT DAWDIN! WHAT'S THE MESSAGE? NO—ACCOUNT BROUGHT VIC. HAVE YOU SEEN—FORSE HE DIED IN STATE PRISON?

IT'S A LETTER, MR. FARM. ADDRESS'D TO YOUR DAUGHTER. HERE IT IS, PENNY!

I HAVEN'T SEEN UNCLE VIC IN YEARS...

A TENSE SILENCE REIGNS IN THE CURTAIN—SHROUDED ROOM AS THE LAWYER HOLDS OUT THE LETTER TO PENNY. ALL EYES ARE ON THE ENVELOPE—SUDDENLY...

THE LIGHTS
COME OUT!

WHEN THE LIGHTS BLAZE ON AGAIN—

THE LETTER—IT'S GONE! SOMEONE RAN INTO THE ROOM WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT! I FELT HIM BRUSH BY ME!

SOMEONE RAN INTO THE ROOM WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT! I FELT HIM BRUSH BY ME!

BUT A THOROUGH SEARCH OF THE ROOM REVEALS...

NOT A TRACE OF IT ON ANYONE HERE—OR IN THIS ROOM! WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO STEAL A SEALED ENVELOPE?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT WAS IN IT MYSELF! THIS IS TERRIBLE! I'LL NOTIFY THE SHERIFF!

YOU DID THAT, LAWYER CONWAY! I HAVE TO LEAVE NOW FOR THE RANCH. I'VE FORWARDED THE SCROLL TO THE WINNER. TELL THE SHERIFF I'LL SEE HIM WHENEVER HE WANTS.

I'D BETTER HANG AROUND IN CASE THE SHERIFF HAS QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT THE MISSING LETTER.

NO, I'LL ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS, JED. YOU'D BETTER GO WITH OLD MOORE REPRESENTING OUR RANCH IN THE RANCH.

HELLO, SHERIFF NIXON? THIS IS—AH, CONWAY. PLEASE COME OVER TO THE STARS RANCH.



MEANWHILE, A FESTIVE CROWD IS FILING INTO THE STANDS WHERE THE RODEO IS TO TAKE PLACE...



I sure wish you were one of the contestants, Jimmy, instead of a judge!

BALLON COUNTY ANNUAL CHARITY DRIVE / RODEO! COME ONE! COME ALL!

AND IN THE JUDGES' BOOTH, THE CONVOY CANNON REPLIES TO THE REQUEST...



NOT THIS TIME, TOM! SINCE I STARTED APPEARING IN RODEOS, I NEVER GET A CHANCE TO SEE ONE ANYMORE!

HAVE IT'S JUST AS WELL. JIMMY WAKELY'D WALK AWAY WITH THIS SHEEPSKIN SCROLL PRIZE!

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT, EVANS, YOUR CONWARD JED IS THE BEST RODEO RIDER I'VE EVER SEEN!

BUT THE GOOD-NATURED BANTER IS CUT SHORT AS A BREATHELESS CONVOY DASHES INTO THE JUDGES' BOOTH...



PETE RENACK'S JUST BOOKED HIS ANGLES! HE WON'T BE ABLE TO RIDE FOR THE BALLON X RANCH!

GOIN' HERE JED'S DERRIN-GET CON- PETSON! JED'LL FREEZE THROUGH!

WAY DON'T YOU TAKE PETER'S PLACE, JIMMY?

YOU CAN'T LEAVE YOUR OWN RANCH IN THE LUCK...



BUT JIMMY'S A JUDGE!

WANT THIS RODEO TO BE A SUCCESS, DON'T YOU, EVANS? CHARITY WILL BENEFIT, NOW ABOUT IT, JIMMY?

FOR CHARITY—YES!

AND SO A FEW MINUTES LATER...



JED'S A RIGHTLY POWERFUL RIDER, JIMMY!

THAT'S THE BEST ROMAN STAND I'VE SEEN YET!

AS JED DISMOUNTS, HE IS JOINED BY HIS FIL, DAD, WHO...

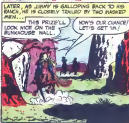
BUT THE SHYING JAWY MAKES JED'S "ROMAN STAND" LOOK LIKE KID-BADGLE RIDING. AS HE BEINGS AN INCREDIBLE DISPLAY OF RIDING...



IT AIN'T FAIR LETT'Y'NARRY ENTER THE RODEO!

SAH—HELL NEVER BEAT AT ROMAN STAND!

AS THE CONTEST CONTINUES, ALL THE OTHER CONTESTANTS ARE ELIMINATED AND IT BECOMES A DUEL BETWEEN JIMMY AND JED...



BUT, BEFORE THE STARTLED GAZE OF THE CROWD, JIMMY ANSWERS FAST AS THE WIND AND...







JIMMY WAKELY



BUT JIMMY'S CALL HADN'T PURSUED SOCIAL, FOR HE HEADS FOR THE RANCHMAN'S BACKHOUSE, THERE ...



NEW GANG, AIN'T THEY JED? WHAT HAPPENED? LOSE YOUR OLD ONES?

WAKELY! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' HERE?

IF A NODDY WANTS AN OLD SHEEPSKIN SCROLL BADLY ENOUGH TO STAGE A HOLDUP FOR IT, THE LEAST I COULD DO IS MAKE HIM A PRESENT OF IT!

YOU'RE LOOD... YOU'VE GOT NO PROOF I STAGED A HOLDUP!



YOU SHOULDN'T LET THAT FINCY ROMAN STAND TRICK SO MUCH, JED! IT'S JUST LIKE YOUR SIGNATURE!



AT THAT MOMENT...

JUST TOLD WAKELY'S BUNK ABOUT, LOOKIN' FOR THAT SHEEPSKIN SCROLL, JED? BE JUSTIVE

SHUT UP, BULL HEAD! WAKELY'S HERE!

HONKY, DAD!

WHIRLING WITH BLAZING SPEED, THE COMBOY CARRIAGE WARDS OFF JACK'S GUY!...



I'LL LEVEL 'IN, JED--

THAT SHEEPSKIN SCROLL MUST BE MADE OF PINK! THE WAY YOU TWO ARE GOING AFTER IT!

A CREAKING SOUND MAKES JIMMY PIVOT ONCE MORE AND...



I'LL PUT YOU TO SLEEP FOR GOOD, WAKELY!

SORRY, BUT I DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING TO SLEEP MY!



4 FELLOW MAKES AN EFFECTIVE WEAPON FOR THE RESOURCEFUL COWBOY...



AS THE TWO DESPERADOES TURN TOWARD THE BUNKHOUSE DOOR...



SWIFTLY TYING PERRY BEHIND ONE OF THE BUNNY, TAD AND JED TAKE THE UNCONSCIOUS JIMMY ALONG WITH THEM AS A HOSTAGE...



BUT EVEN THE ENERGETIC JIMMY CAN'T SEE EVERYWHERE AT ONCE AND...



BUT THE BRAVE GUY'S VALIANT EFFORTS ARE TO NO AVAL, FOR TAD MAKES A SURPRISE MOVE...



BUT THE UNSUSPECTING GUNMAN RECEIVES A JOLTING SURPRISE WHEN...



AS THE ENRAGED DESPERADO BRINGS HIS GUN DOWN ON JIMMY, THE FIGHTING CONDOBY MURLS HIMSELF BACKWARD OFF THE HORSE AND...

PLAYIN' POSSEUR, HUH? YOU'VE DONE YOUR LAST FANCY STUNT, JED! I'LL MAKE YOUR PLAYIN' REEL TIE--



JIMMY FINISHES OFF JED WITH A JARRING UPPERCUT...

NEVER SAW SUCH A FUSE OVER A PIECE OF SHEEPSKIN SCROLL / FAYES ITS TIME TO READ BETWEEN THE LINES!



AS JIMMY CAREFULLY EXAMINES THE SHEEPSKIN SCROLL, IT COMES APART, AND...



IT'S A LETTER WITH PERRY DUANE'S NAME ON IT! IT MUST BE THE ONE THAT WAS STOLEN!



THE LETTER CONTAINS A MAP OF THE LOOT OF AN OLD ROBBERY THAT VIC WAS INVOLVED IN! SO THAT'S WHAT JED WAS AFTER! HE MUST'VE LEARNED ABOUT IT SOMEBODY AND PLANNED TO STEAL IT!

LATER, BACK AT THE SWANS BARNCH...

SO JED KEPT SECRET HIS ROW IN THE BARRI PRISON WITH NICK! THAT'S HOW HE LEARNED ABOUT THE LETTER! HE STOLE IT, AND SLIPPED IT INTO THE SCROLL, FIGURING HE'D GET IT BACK WHEN HE WON THE RODEO CONTEST!

WHICH HE WOULD HAVE DONE, IF YOU HADN'T ENTERED THE RODEO, JIMMY!



WE'RE RETURNING THE LOOT TO THE GOVERNMENT, JIMMY...AS SOON AS WE CAN DO IT UP!

WE CAN NEVER THANK YOU ENOUGH!

IT'S ALL IN A DAY'S WORK!

